

Fallen Soldier honored in memorial service

By **Spc. Justin Nieto**
SETAF Public Affairs

1st Lt. Derek Hines, 25, was given one last salute by his fellow Soldiers during a memorial service held in the post chapel Friday.

Upon graduating from the United States Military Academy in May, 2003, Hines, affectionately called “Hinsey” by his friends, was assigned to the 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment.

Hines was killed in Baylough, Afghanistan, where he served as the Battle Company, 2nd Battalion, 503d Infantry Fire Support Officer, when his unit

was conducting security operations and came under attack by enemy forces.

“When you look over at the picture of Hinsey, you see the best of the best. The typical all American, blonde hair, blue-eyed guy,” said 2nd Lt. Jed M. Richard, who served in Battle Company with Hines in Afghanistan. “He was the son that every parent wants; the friend that everyone wants; and the Soldier that every man needs. Hinsey was mentor to others, helping them with applications to college, mentoring men on fire support, but for some reason it all had to suddenly end 1 September 2005.

“Whether it was having people in the

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2nd Lt. Jed M. Richard
Battle Company
2nd Battalion,
503d Infantry (Airborne)



1st Lt. Derek Hines



Soldiers pay their final respects to 1st Lt. Derek Hines closing the memorial service Friday at the post chapel. (Photo by Barbara Romano, 7th ATC)

states send over toys for young Afghani children, or being the project manager for countless numbers of schools, hospitals, and government buildings, Hinsey did it beyond anybody’s expectations,” continued Richard.

When Richard asked his fellow Soldiers what to bring back to Italy for the memorial service, one of them asked that he bring these words: “Just know this of Derek and when he died; he didn’t die a coward or anything close to that. Derek died fighting. Standing up and fighting, just like he did everything. Let everyone know that.”

Richard then summed up Hines’ relationship with his men everyday.

“All Derek cared about was the men that fought with him every mission, every day of the week,” said Richard. “Derek was a perfect leader, born a man of compassion for others, caring more for their well being than even his own. In many professions this phrase is used unjustly. Not for Derek, he died standing, fighting to get the enemy

before they were able to get the rest of his men.”

Hines also led Battle Company’s project funds to build schools, hospitals and government buildings in Baylough, Saygez and Khakeran. He was a favorite of local Afghani officials in all districts and after his redeployment to Italy, he was to be offered a spot at one of the Army’s prestigious Ranger Regiments.

“He was a Soldier’s Soldier, a Soldier’s role model, and an honest man’s hero,” said Richard. “We all love you Hinsey, rest in peace. Battle Hard.”

1st Lt. Derek Hines is survived by his parents, Steven and Susan, his two brothers, Mike and Trevor, and his sister, Ashley. The family resides in Newburyport, Massachusetts.

Touzinsky takes top spot in 14th Trans, Brown deploys



Lt. Col. David Touzinski, incoming commander for the 14th Transportation Battalion, receives the unit’s guidon from Col. Joyce Di Marco, commander, 1st Transportation Movement Control Agency, during the change of command ceremony held on Hoekstra Field Friday. Lt. Col. Charles Brown (right), 14th Trans outgoing commander, will be heading downrange to Afghanistan to serve as part of the SETAF staff in the role of chief of transportation for the Combined Joint Task Force-76. (Photo by Barbara Romano, 7th ATC)

By **Spc. Justin Nieto**
SETAF Public Affairs

Lt. Col. David Touzinski officially assumed command of the 14th Transportation Battalion (MC) from Lt. Col. Charles Brown during a rainy change of command ceremony Friday on Hoekstra Field.

Brown is leaving his command to join up with the Soldiers in Afghanistan to be the chief of transportation for SETAF in the Combined Joint Task Force-76. Touzinski will be deploying soon to the battalion’s downrange location at Bagram, Afghanistan.

“The 14th Trans has a long and time-honored history,” said Col. Joyce Di Marco, commander of the 1st Transportation Movement Control Agency, during the ceremony. “Ranging from World War II to the global war on terrorism, the 14th Trans has kept things moving.”

As the rain subsided, Brown took the podium and addressed his Soldiers for the last time before moving on.

“To all the 14th Trans team

members, Soldiers, [Department of the Army] civilians and local national employees: Let me praise you once more,” said Brown. “You continued the 14th Transportation Battalion legacy as the most decorated transportation unit in our Army.”

Brown went on to thank his friends and family, then gave way to the incoming commander, Touzinsky.

“It is with great honor that I stand here today, ready to lead the great men and women comprising the 14th Transportation Battalion,” said Touzinsky.

“We are a nation at war and the success of our war-fighting forces weighs heavily on the ability of the combat service support Soldier to execute their job,” said Touzinsky. “And the 14th Transportation Battalion plays a major role in the global war on terrorism by providing crucial support to our combat troops.”

Touzinsky entered the Army in 1988 after graduating from Northern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science in

Marketing. He has a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Touro University. He began his Army career as an Armor Officer. His military education includes the Armor Officer Basic Course, Airborne and Ranger Training and the Transportation Officer Advance Course.

Touzinsky served in a variety of command and staff positions throughout his career that include Tank Platoon Leader and Tank Company Executive Officer, 8th Infantry Division; Battalion Plans Officer and S4, 11th Transportation Battalion; Company Commander, 71st Transportation Battalion; Operations Officer, 69th Signal Battalion; Officer In Charge, USAREUR Deployment Processing Center, 29th Support Group; Battalion Executive Officer, 191st Ordnance Battalion; Brigade S3, 1st TMCA; Chief, Surface Industry Branch, USTRANSCOM.

Overseas Contingency Operations include deployments to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Haiti, and Macedonia.

MP ticket rumors

The truth is...

Lt. Col. Shawn Driscoll
Provost Marshal
22nd Area Support Group

I’ve received some complaints recently generated by members of the community who feel the Military Police are too harsh and unfair in their application of the rules and regulations. As is all cases involving alleged MP misconduct, I have personally reviewed a number of individual complaints.

Although some of the complaints are reported by the individual involved directly to the Provost Marshal’s Office, most have been passed on by word of mouth. That is to say, the complaints have been forwarded by way of rumor.

When asked to provide the ticket they received erroneously, the answer given in most cases goes something like this: “Oh it didn’t happen to me, I heard it from a neighbor” or “It was brought up at the Family Readiness Group meeting.”

Therefore, the rumors have been very hard to substantiate.

As a point of information, I’ve included some of the most recent complaints that I have received.

I will positively confirm that absolutely no Armed Forces Traffic Tickets (DD Form 1408) were issued with the offenses identified below.

The MPs are issued the 1408s and must account for all tickets either issued or otherwise.

Alleged tickets:

- I was walking and talking on my cell phone and received a ticket for the same.
- I was sitting in my car with the engine off while talking on my cell phone and received a ticket.
- I started my car, put on my seatbelt while still parked and received a ticket for not wearing a seatbelt.

- I watched the MP point his radar gun at my wheels as I had to speed up to cross the force protection barriers and received a ticket for speeding.
- I was walking with other wives around the track while our children played on the field and received a ticket for not watching my child.
- I received a ticket for parking in a No Parking space. My fault, but the cars on either side of me did not get ticketed.
- An MP told me he was going to pay special attention to my car because I asked him a question after receiving a parking ticket.

It is unclear why these types of rumors would gain any support or notoriety with members of the community. There is a checks and balances system in place allowing community members to question the tickets they receive.

The tickets are sent to the licensee’s commander or civilian supervisor, or the Civil Misconduct Action Authority for action. The applicable office reviews the tickets, conducts an inquiry and if needed assesses the correct number of traffic points against the individual’s POV license. A licensee has the right to appeal the assessment of traffic points to the IMA deputy commander.

In cases where infractions mandate the suspension of the POV license, for instance Drunk Driving, accumulation of 12 traffic points within a 12 month period or Failure to Wear a Seatbelt, the Provost Marshal will suspend and confiscate the license. These actions are in accordance with provisions of the USASETAF Regulation 190-2 (Traffic Supervision).

Finally, I want to make it perfectly clear that community members have the right to complain about inappropriate conduct on behalf of the MP. If an individual feels he or she has been unfairly treated by an MP, please come forward and provide information directly to the Provost Marshal’s Office. We can and will react to first hand information.

Restoring broken relationships

The 22nd Area Support Group Chaplain’s Family Life Office, in partnership with deployed SETAF and 173d Airborne Brigade chaplains, is writing a series of devotional articles based on the best-selling book, “A Purpose Driven Life,” by Pastor Rick Warren.

The intent of these articles is to offer deployed Soldiers and their family members a devotional meditation which they can use for weekly discussion and to hopefully deepen their spiritual connection during the separation.

Chaplain (Maj.) Leon Kircher
22nd Area Support Group
Family Life Chaplain

“Relationships are always worth restoring...”

As a minister I am always amazed at how some people will – since they are mad at someone – decide not to attend church “as long as **‘they’** go there.”

They make a conscious decision to hurt their spiritual life in spite of another. And rather than admit fault or make efforts to restore the relationship, they’ll just not talk to each other.

They will avoid any semblance of conflict or try to appease the other person so everything will appear to be okay on the surface. How can broken relationships be restored?

Rev. Rick Warren offers some insight.

1. Talk to God before you talk to the person. It is easier for us to gossip about someone then pray about them.

The Greek word for gossip in the Bible is the same word used to describe a dead and decaying body, only gossip decays a person’s character.

Everyone likes to “vent” their problems these days. Try venting *vertically* first.

2. Always take the initiative. Offender or offended, you should make the first move. Schedule a face to face meeting immediately. The longer you wait the

deeper the grudge may grow. Plus, ensure you have time so neither of you is rushed. Fixing this is very important.

3. Sympathize with their feelings. We have two ears and one mouth.

The obvious lesson is to listen twice as much as you speak.

The phrase “look out for” is the Greek word for *skopos*, from which we get our words telescope and microscope. It means pay close attention!

See what they have to say before you answer every accusation.

4. Confess your part of the conflict. Rarely is one side 100 percent at fault. Confession is a powerful tool for reconciliation. Admit mistakes.

Just own up to your part of the problem and ask for forgiveness.

5. Attack the problem, not the person. Fixing blame will divert you from the problem at hand. How you say things is as important as what you say.

During the Cold War both sides had weapons that were so destructive that it was mutually agreed they never be used.

For the sake of reconciliation, we have to destroy our arsenal of relational nuclear weapons, including belittling, condemning, comparing, insulting, labeling and being sarcastic.

6. Cooperate as much as possible. The Bible says: “Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everyone.” Peace has a price tag.

Sometimes that price is your pride and self-centeredness.

And finally:

7. Emphasize reconciliation, not resolution. Sometimes you will just have to “agree to disagree.”

But you can still live in peace with that person. It doesn’t mean you pack it away for another time, but you can disagree without being disagreeable.

Reconciliation means you bury the hatchet, not necessarily the issue.

All right – enough clichés. But what Warren says is important. If wronged, make amends – and do it soon!

Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues that affect the community.

If you have an issue that you wish to submit, visit the 22nd Area Support Group Web site at www.22asg.vicenza.army.mil and click on the Community Action Council link.

This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies.

There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in order to be able to answer your concern directly.

The command also reminds the community that CAC issues submitted containing vulgar, derogatory or inflammatory language will not be addressed.

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$2.50 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, Building 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration.

Call 634-7219 or stop by their new location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next Community Action Council meeting is Sept. 28 at 9 a.m. in the Ederle Theater.

Issue: *The Arts and Crafts center is only open late on Thursdays. This is family time and I cannot bring my child into the Arts and Crafts center. Can we re-look their hours of operation?*

Response from Directorate of MWR: We have responded by separating this CAC issue into two primary concerns: 1) Hours of operation and, 2) Children in the Art Center.

We will look into the hours of the Art Center, as well as all hours of operation in MWR facilities, during the first quarter of FY06 (October – December 2005).

For now, we have decided to maintain the hours of operation currently in place.

The hours and days of operation for the Vicenza Art Center are based on customer usage data, income, peak usage hours, peak usage days, and the best use of staff.

The Vicenza Art Center is a Morale, Welfare and Recreation activity which, by Army Regulation 215-1, must “break even” with respect to net income.

Department of the Army MWR standards require art centers to be open 40 hours per week and require two staff on duty at all times to monitor facility to ensure safety. These three factors were taken into consideration when setting the hours and days of operation.

In an effort to serve as many customers needs as possible, we are also open Saturdays from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and open late on Thursdays from noon-8 p.m.

In addition, we have reduced our clean-up time from 30 minutes to 15 minutes prior to closing to give our customers an additional 15 minutes of work.

The Art Center staff is happy to work with

you to schedule additional working time (before the center opens, Tuesday-Friday) if you are working on a special project.

We believe these hours offer a spectrum of opportunities for individuals and families to take advantage of the programs offered. Currently, the hours of operation are demonstrating to be meeting the bulk of the needs of the community.

Regarding the issue of children in the facility, children are welcome in our facility; however, due to safety requirements of the wood shop and framing area, children under the age of 16 are not allowed in those areas.

This is a safety issue and we would not want to put any child at risk. The Art Center does offer numerous parent and child classes.

Issue: *Swim lessons are only available from 9 a.m.-noon. I am unavailable to volunteer at this time and a lot of parents are unavailable to take their child at that time. Is it possible to change the hours or hold lessons in the afternoon so I can come and help?*

Response from DMWR: The DMWR Sports and Fitness Branch will offer swim lessons, for levels 1 through 3, after school from 3:30-4:30 p.m., and for levels 4 through 7 and adults from 5:30-6:30 p.m. from Oct. 17 through Nov. 4. The swim instruction schedule can be expanded based on the number of instructors teaching.

If you are interested in teaching swimming, please contact the DMWR NAF Contracting Branch at 634-7234.

If you are interested in volunteering, please stop by ACS or call 634-7500 to register as a volunteer.

Issue: *I have called the MPs four times for an emergency. The ambulance and fire department both took over 30 minutes to reach my house in Villaggio. When asked why it took so long, they responded that they got lost.*

How are the MPs and emergency vehicles getting lost in Villaggio?

Response from PMO: We will make sure that our MPs receive orientation of our installations. Also, emergency vehicles should not be unduly held up at the gates. To help solve this problem, please let the PMO leadership know of such incidents as soon as they happen.

Tape a holiday greeting

A television crew from the Army-Air Force Hometown News Service, based in Texas, will visit Caserma Ederle Wednesday and Thursday to tape holiday greetings. Another team will be in Afghanistan Sept. 12-16 to tape messages from there.

The messages will be aired at various times in the individual’s hometown during the holiday period starting after Thanksgiving and running through the New Year.

Taping will take place in front of the Ederle Theater both days from 8 a.m. until all customers have been served.

For more information call Dorothy Carlyle, 22nd ASG Public Affairs Office at 634-7988, from off post at 0444-71-7988.

Team Village

Story and photos
By Pfc. Jon Arguello
Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs

Civil assistance takes on new name



Romanian dentist, 1st Lt. Oana Abrudan, prepares a young boy for a tooth extraction as her interpreter watches. Abrudan is with Romania's 151st Infantry Battalion.

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Since arriving in Afghanistan in April, Task Force Bayonet Soldiers and their Afghan counterparts have been responsible for an unprecedented amount of military victories across their area of operation. In just a few months, they have removed any doubt the central government of Afghanistan is here to stay. Victory on the battlefield however isn't the only place paratroopers of the 173d Brigade (Airborne) have had success.

Aug. 8 marked the end of a civic assistance mission that set the standard for success and could easily be considered a perfect example of cooperation among Coalition partners to benefit the local populous. The village medical outreach mission, termed Operation Rimini, was a true joint effort with participation by three Coalition members.

"Team Village," as the group was called, included American medical, veterinary and mechanical personnel; two Romanian Soldiers, one a dentist; and a security element of American and Afghan National Army Soldiers, as well as Soldiers with varying skill sets.

The mission's goals were to increase support for the Coalition forces and the government of Afghanistan. The means to provide whatever services the Soldiers could to the local population in several villages across Regional Command South using their diverse training.

"Missions like this really further the cause of the Coalition and Afghan government," said Capt. Paul Larson, a native of Boulder, Colo., and commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne). "Counter-insurgency type conflicts are won by engaging the populous, and we can only do that so much by killing Taliban. I think you get better results saving a sick child or woman than you can by killing ten Taliban."

Operation Rimini led to an astounding victory in terms of building trust between Afghans in remote parts of southern Afghanistan and Coalition forces. The mission not only increased mutual trust but raised the level of confidence the people of southern Afghanistan have in their government.

If nothing else, the sight of more than a dozen vehicles rolling along the small cramped makeshift roads through remote

villages delivering important supplies and providing medical, dental and mechanical services would leave a definite impression.

"It's important to establish a trust and rapport with the average Afghan in the countryside," Larson explained. "The people in remote villages have little or no visibility of the efforts of the Afghan government to improve and stabilize the country. So when they see this level of goodwill coming from their own authorities, along with Coalition forces, it leaves a lasting impression – that impression will be nothing but good."

The value of that impression however is even more important in terms of long-term success, explained 1st Sgt. Kenneth Wolfe, HHC, 2-503d, from Sevierville, Tenn., not only in the sense the people are receiving help, but the fact that their own national army is involved in providing that help.

"The more we can do for the people of [Regional Command] South, the more attractive [the Coalition] is as an alternative to the Taliban," he said. "We are showing them we can really help them, as opposed to just feeding them the same old rhetoric and beating tactics that the Taliban use. The lasting effects of the memories we made on this mission will provide the people with confidence in themselves and their government. It makes it very clear to them what is good and right about our mission here."

The "good and right" manifested itself in several ways over the 10-day mission. More than 1,000 Afghan citizens were treated by the Coalition medical staff, including a family practitioner of Charlie Company, 173d Support Battalion (Airborne). Hundreds more who were bedridden or otherwise unable to reach the medical staff received medicine.

The severity of the illnesses and injuries ranged from leprosy to parasites to open-wound infections. A child was brought in who had drowned and was consequently saved by the medical team.

"He was freezing and in shock," said Capt. Jaqueline Naylor, from Ocala, Fla. "His lips were blue and he was shivering. We attempted to breathe for him and started an IV."

The medical team attempted to start intravenous medication but the child's veins were too small and the oxygen mask they had wouldn't seal around the child's nose and mouth. The medics worked feverishly to keep the child awake and to empty

his lungs of water.

"We warmed him up and performed chest percussion in order to clear his chest of water," said Naylor, an Army physician.

The medical team wouldn't give up; they continued to treat the child for two hours. They held him, kept him warm and persistently attempted to expel the water from his lungs. Eventually, the 2-year-old child had improved enough that he could be released to his father.

Other patients were checked by the doctor, and they had the opportunity to have their teeth looked at by Romania's 151st Infantry Battalion's dentist. The dental team conducted 74 exams, extracted 59 teeth and distributed 455 dental hygiene kits over four operating days.

"The professional gratification was very high, especially being able to treat women and work with American medical colleagues," said 1st Lt. Oana Abrudan, the Romanian dentist. "Personally, I'm proud that I was able to help the Afghan people while representing my country. It meant a lot to me professionally and personally."

Abrudan's accompanying Romanian Soldier shared her feelings.

"I'm very appreciative of the experience," said Cpl. Marius Budric, a Romanian recon paratrooper attached to the 151st "It was a great experience to represent Romania on this mission and work side by side with other Coalition forces while contributing to the betterment of the Afghan people."

The Romanian's appreciation for the cooperation was reciprocated by Wolfe.

"The mission could not have been successful without our Romanian partners. I heard a saying that Romania has two friends, the Black Sea and the U.S. I think they have many friends, but they went to great lengths to have at least three: the black Sea, the U.S. and the people of RC South who they helped."

Humans weren't the only patients during the mission. Flocks of sheep and goats were treated by "team sheep," as the veterinarian, and her infantrymen-turned-veterinarian assistants, were called.

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“Treating livestock is important for our mission and the progress of the local population,” said Capt. Stephanie Mueller, from Townsend, Mass. “Livestock is their livelihood – their source of food, including milk and meat. Treating the livestock means healthier animals and in return contributes to a healthier human population.”

Beyond medical and veterinary services, Soldiers from the 492nd Civil Affairs Battalion were also present figuring out how they could implement projects which would provide long term benefits to the people.

“There’s a lot of work to do in Afghanistan,” said Sgt. Adam Borrero, of San Antonio, Texas. “But we’re making progress and it’s important for the people here to understand that we’re here to help, not as an occupying force.”

Several projects were already underway in the villages the mission was making stops in. Many of the projects include training programs for the Afghan National Police and Army who help to ensure that the projects directly benefiting the populous would be completed under a secure environment.

“It’s important that we do what we can to ensure that problems of corruption are avoided,” said Spc. Carlos Villegas, from Las Vegas, Nev., also a Soldier from the 492nd. “We do this by reinforcing the capabilities of the ANP and ANA with training and support until they can independently provide protection for their people.”

Part of the support the ANP and ANA received during the mission involved the work of 173d Support Battalion’s Spc. Cassandra Lopez, Staff Sgt. Lougens Charles and his platoon leader, 1st Lt. Scott Natter.

Together, they repaired 12 police motorcycles, two police trucks and a generator, while keeping the convoy’s 16 vehicles rolling through the punishing terrain.

“Although repairing the vehicles was important and necessary, my favorite part was actually distributing the civil assistance supplies,” said Charles. “Seeing the childrens’ faces and the gratitude of the people really brought home how much we were helping.

“I believed in [the mission to Afghanistan] from the beginning because of how the people here were being treated. But to personally contribute to the welfare of the people was incredibly gratifying,” Charles added.

Gratification by their personal contribution was felt by all of Team Village’s members.

“Personally, the satisfaction of helping someone less fortunate was incredible,” said Wolfe. “Seeing someone squeak out a meager existence – barely surviving and still being content, really makes you appreciate what you have and not take things, and people, for granted.”

“Participation in these missions has been the most rewarding part of my experience thus far,” said Naylor. “I am grateful for the opportunity to go ‘beyond the wire’ and see Afghanistan. I am learning more about the culture and lifestyle. I have also been fortunate enough to make a difference during these medical outreaches. It is definitely an experience that I will cherish forever.”



Afghan National Army soldiers bring in medical supplies to the village medical outreach site. The ANA’s participation in the mission was essential to building trust between the villagers and the central government of Afghanistan.



First Sgt. Kenneth Wolfe, HHC, 2-503d, restrains a local man’s sheep as Capt Stephanie Mueller, veterinarian, treats the animal for worms.

Evidence of mission was spread all over the small villages in the form of posters and handbills passed out and posted by Staff Sgt. Timothy O’Connor and his team from the 13th Psychological Operations Battalion.

“We passed out 16,782 pieces of paper product,” said O’Connor. “We also distributed toys and school supplies.”

O’Connor’s team proved that there’s a lot more common sense in what they do than there is manipulation.

The posters for instance, promoted the Afghan National Army, tips on avoiding illness through proper hygiene and safe meal preparation practices, details on voting procedures and other useful information that people in remote places might not otherwise be aware of.

“These missions are vital to ensure that the people of Afghanistan realize that we are truly here to help, and the goodwill that is shown by all parties involved will greatly affect the local population’s trust in the Coalition and their willingness to share information vital to ending anti-Coalition influence, therefore making a truly free Afghanistan,” said O’Connor.

Wolfe was proud of his Team Village Soldiers, not just for the mission’s success, but for their individual performances.

“I can’t say enough about these Soldiers,” he said. “Their willingness to bring their specialties out of [Kandahar Airfield], their enthusiasm, will and desire to help was awesome.”

The 10-day mission can easily be viewed as a milestone for the Afghan government and Coalition forces. At the very least, individuals were provided with healthcare. In the long term, Team Village hopes that the mission established a relationship with a large enough portion of RC South’s population that will impact the overall mission in Afghanistan.

Larson explained his hopes with an anecdote: “When I was stationed in Germany, I had a host family that always took care of me. The mother was especially kind and it was simply because in 1946 an American Soldier gave her a piece of chocolate. Because of that act of kindness, she would be a supporter of American Soldiers for the rest of her life.”

Wolfe had another way of explaining his hopes.

“We saw and treated nearly one percent of the entire population of Zabul. We were displaying the human face of Task Force Bayonet. It’s not just helicopters and armored humvees, its people with genuine concern for the people of RC South and that should have a lasting effect. The vet for instance may never pull the trigger, but her act of goodwill might have set us up for more success in the future than shooting someone ever could.”



Cpl. Jessica Stephenson hands out a volleyball to a young boy. The psychological operations team circulated thousands of posters and handbills as well as school supplies and toys.

Out & About



By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Rice Festivals and more

Friday, the town of Grumolo delle Abbadesse, starts their rice festival.

Every evening you'll find food stands, rides for children, a small exhibition and music groups, the festival ends Sept. 20.

The '39th Rice Festival' in the town of Isola della Scala, in the Verona provence, starts today and goes through Oct. 2.

The food tents are open Monday-Saturday from noon-2 p.m. and 6:30-midnight; Sundays they open from noon-midnight.

Last year, during the same period more than 240,000 rice dishes were served.

There will also be a market selling packages of rice, 'Riso Vialone Nano Veronese,' which is grown in the area.

Sunday events: at 2 p.m. on Via Battisti there will be a market for children.

At 4:30 p.m. in piazza Martiri Italian folk music by the group 'El Cadin.'

Sept. 25 at 11 a.m. there will be a medieval costumed parade through the streets of the town; 2 p.m. the market for children opens.

During the rice festival also find exhibitions open and music groups playing in the evening.

Directions for Isola della Scale: leave the autostrada at Verona Sud (south) follow signs for Modena – SS-12 the town is located 18km from the autostrada exit.

On Friday through Sunday the town of Costabissara will hold its annual 'Festa del Pesce,' to take place in the early evening.

All dishes will have a fish base: spaghetti with clams and fried or grilled fish. Later in the evening, dance to an orchestra.

Grisignano di Zocco's sagra ends Wednesday. There is a large market, rides, exhibitions and food tents. Open from 3 p.m. until midnight.

The millennium ballad

This weekend, the city of Bassano del Grappa, through the initiative 'La Ballata del Millennio' will relive the most important moments in the city's history.

The whole historical center of the city will become a stage, which will be divided into six different locations in the city, and more than 500 characters dressed in medieval attire will be on hand.

The different stages include the birth of the city that was documented in a degree dated in July 22 998; the presence in the city of Ezzelini III, the medieval trail of 1320, and the betrayal of Perenzano De' Blasi by the Carraresi.

Also find a medieval market of the 15th century and more – the

history of Bassano will take you through the start in the year 998 to the resistance of its partisans and their sacrifice on Sept. 24-25, 1944 during WWII.

Saturday events start at 3:45 p.m. and then in the evening at 5 and 9:30p.m.

Sunday's events are only at 3:45 p.m.

Mongrel festival

The *8th Festa del Bastadino*, (mongrel festival), takes place Sunday at 2 p.m. in Parco Querini.

Sponsored by the Marola Animal Shelter, the dogs will give a spectacular show with races, best dog competition, Frisbee game and more.

There will also be a small food stand, a *pesca di beneficenza*, (where you pay a small fee to pick a number that corresponds to a prize), and an information kiosk.

All proceedings go to the upkeep of the animals in the Marola Animal Shelter.

Food tasting

'*La Piazza di Saponi*' (a square for tasting) takes place this weekend in downtown Vicenza.

This is an occasion to taste 'Vicentini' dishes, as well as those from other parts of Italy in the 45 gazeboes that will be set up.

The event takes place in the main square and is open from 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Furniture exhibition

A furniture exhibition '*Abitare Il Tempo*' will be held at the Verona exhibition grounds Thursday through Monday, however, it is only open to the general public Sunday 9 a.m.-6:30p.m.

With more than 650 stalls, 125 of whom are from abroad, you'll find everything for the inside and outside of your home.

Entrance fee is 20 Euro.

Juliet's birthday

Juliet's birthday will be celebrated in *Piazza Erbe* in Verona on Sunday.

This all day event will include music, dancing, flag-wavers, falconers, alchemists and a medieval market where you can see demonstration of how sculptors, goldsmiths, carpenters, stone-cutters, and blacksmiths worked in medieval times.

Discover Padova

Padova has got, like most other European cities, a 'Hop on Hop off' bus service for tourists.

The red city sightseeing bus has 11 major visitor attractions including *Basilica del Santo*; *Piazza delle Erbe*; the railway

station, *Prato della Valle* and much more.

At any point you can get off the bus and visit the site, and get back on the next bus that comes by, continuing the tour. Or you can go through all the sites on the bus and listen to a multi-lingual commentary, including English and Spanish.

The tour takes approximately one hour.

The service is in operation until the end of October, runs daily from 9 a.m.-6p.m.

Cost of this ticket is 13 Euro and is valid for 24 hours. A four-hour ticket is 10 Euro, and all tickets can be purchased on the bus.

Fast historical cars

Historical car fans will enjoy the *29th Mostra Scambio di Imola* taking place this weekend inside the famous autodromo, *Dino & Enzo Ferrari*.

The event is organized by the Club Romagnolo Auto Moto d'Epoca, and is the main rendezvous for all those who love to barter vintage cars, motorcycles, bicycles, accessories, and more.

Open 6 a.m.-6 p.m. each day, entrance fee is 7 Euro. Check out www.mostrascambioimola.it.

When you tire of that, the Republic of San Marino is located about an hour's drive away.

Palio in Asti

Sunday, the town of Asti holds their famous *palio*, which dates back to 1275.

It is a difficult race where the contestants ride on bareback.

The palio features 21 horses with jockeys representing their respective district; 1,200 people dressed in medieval clothes and many inhabitants of the surrounding districts take part in this event.

Program for the day: 11 a.m.watch an exhibition of flag throwers; at noon is the formal registration of jockeys and horses at the town hall; at 2:15 p.m.the historical procession starts from *Piazza Cattedrale* and re-enacts scenes of medieval life; at 4 p.m. the palio begins.

The event consists of three preliminary heats in which seven horses compete, with nine going on to the final; at 5 p.m. see another flag throwing display.

At 6 p.m.is the final race and awarding of the Palio to the winner.

See Web site www.comune.asti.it/manifestazioni/palio/welcome.shtml for directions and ticket cost.

Don't forget the camera and while in Asti, try a '*bonet*', an area delicacy – a chocolate pudding, fragrant almond cookies soaked in a goblet of Asti Spumante.

at least 35 paying adults. Leave at 6 a.m., return by 11 p.m.

Sept. 25- San Marino. The cost for adults is \$37, children ages 3-12 pay \$36, no charge for children under age 3.

Fee includes guided tour, and escort assistance.

Need at least 30 paying adults. Leave at 7 a.m., return by 9 p.m.

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Sept. 13 | CLOSED | 5 p.m. |
| Sept. 14 | Bewitched (PG13) | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 15 | War of the Worlds (PG13) | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 16 | The Island (PG13) | 7 p.m. |
| | Dark Water (PG13) | 10 p.m. |
| Sept. 17 | Rebound (PG13) | 2 p.m. |
| | Dark Water (PG13) | 7 p.m. |
| | The Island (PG13) | 10 p.m. |
| Sept. 18 | The Island (PG13) | 2 p.m. |
| | Dark Water (PG13) | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 19 | CLOSED | |
| Sept. 20 | CLOSED | |

Camp Darby Theater

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--------|
| Sept. 16 | Charlie & the Chocolate Factory (PG13) | 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 17 | Fantastic Four (PG13) | 7 p.m. |

Movie Synopsis

BEWITCHED - *Nicole Kidman, Will Ferrell.* When Jack accidentally runs into Isabel, he becomes convinced she could play the witch Samantha in his new TV series. Isabel is also taken with Jack, seeing him as the quintessential mortal man with whom she can settle down and lead the normal life she so desires. It turns out they're both right—but in ways neither of them ever imagined.

THE ISLAND - *Ewan McGregor, Scarlett Johansson.* Lincoln is a resident of a seemingly utopian but contained facility in the mid 21st century. Like all of the inhabitants of this carefully controlled environment, Lincoln hopes to be chosen to go to the "The Island" - reportedly the last uncontaminated spot on the planet. But Lincoln soon discovers that everything about his existence is a lie. He and all of the other inhabitants of the facility are actually human clones whose only purpose is to provide "spare parts" for their original human counterparts.

DARK WATER - *Jennifer Connelly, John C. Reilly.* Dahlia is starting a new life; newly separated with a new job and a new apartment, she's determined to put her relationship with her estranged husband behind her and devote herself to raising her daughter. But when the strained separation disintegrates into a bitter custody battle, her situation takes a turn for the worse. Her new apartment – dilapidated, cramped, and worn - seems to take on a life of its own. Mysterious noises, persistent leaks of dark water, and strange happenings cause her imagination to run wild, leaving her to wonder who is behind the endless mind games.

REBOUND - *Martin Lawrence, Wendy Raquel.* Coach Roy Robinson once was college basketball's top mastermind. But lately his attentions have been on his next endorsements, not on his next game. What's more, Roy's temper has run amuck, leading to his being banned from college ball until he can demonstrate compliance – in other words, not explode every time he walks onto the court. Roy waits and waits; for a suitable coaching offer, but he receives only one: the Mount Vernon Junior High School Smelters basketball squad.

Admission: Adults age 12 and over \$4, children \$2.
The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time. Tickets to blockbuster shows are presold at Baskin Robbins.



Cougars hit the field

Vicenza High School students practice on the North 40 to get ready for the upcoming football season. The Cougars, coached by Gil Carter, will play in Hohenfels, Germany, on Saturday. The homecoming game is scheduled for Sept. 24. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)

Out & About with ITR

Saturday - Milan. The cost for adults is \$38, fee for children ages 3-12 is \$25, no charge for children under 3. Fee includes guided tour, and escort assistance. Need at least 30 paying adults. Leave at 7:30 a.m., return by 9 p.m.

Sunday - Florence Hills: Lunch Under a Tuscan Sun. An adults-only tour. Cost is \$59. Fee includes

transportation, guided tour, lunch, and escort assistance. Need at least 35 paying adults. Leave at 6:30 a.m., return by 9 p.m.

Sept. 24 - Lake Bled and Slovenia. The cost for adults is \$45, children ages 3-12 pay \$39, no charge for children under age 3.

Fee includes round trip ferry ticket, and escort assistance. Need

San Marino

More than just beautiful views, history

By Barb Bragiel and Amber Heston
Special to the Outlook

If you're feeling the urge to travel back through time, but only have a day to spare, the Republic of San Marino may be just what you need to get your medieval fix.

"I'd never heard of San Marino before," said Dave Meyer, a pharmacist in Vicenza on temporary duty from Germany.

Perhaps that's because it is the smallest – yet oldest – independent state in Europe, completely surrounded by Italy and only three hours southeast of Vicenza.

San Marino's capital city of the same name is located at the summit of a 750-meter-high craggy mass of earth called Mount Titano.

It boasts three ancient castles and a heaven-inspired panorama of Emilia-Romagna's emerald green hills, which roll downward to meet the deep blue of the Adriatic Sea.

On occasion, marine fog shrouds the mountain in a misty white blanket, eventually parting to reveal a magical landscape.

"After the clouds went away, the view was awesome," said recent San Marino visitor Marie Wyatt.

To the more than 4 million tourists who brave the winding roads to the small mountaintop Republic each year, San Marino is a shopper's paradise, with hundreds of street-side stores in which to hunt for gleaming treasures.

To its peace-dedicated population of 30,000, however, San Marino also signifies liberty and freedom.

According to legend, the Republic of San Marino was founded more than 1,700 years ago by Marino, a master stone-cutter. He left his native island of Arbe and ventured to Mount Titano to establish a small community of Christians who were eager to escape religious persecution.

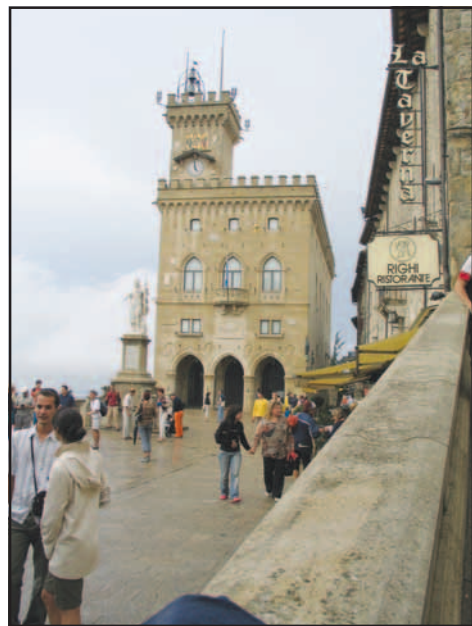
Although today San Marino relies heavily on tourism for its economic growth, banking, textiles and ceramics also contribute to its prosperity.

"The shopping here was great!" Meyer said. "I bought both of my daughters



Known as the second fort, this fort dates back to the XIII century. It is found on the high peak of Mount Titano. The inside houses the Museum of Arms containing arms from the XIII to the XIX centuries.

Left: In the neogothic style, this Romanesque building was the work of architect Francesco Azzurri (1894) built over the foundations of the original 'Parva Domus Communis'.



leather purses."

Among the creature comforts offered today, such as perfumed soaps, Ferrari brand attire, and cappuccino topped with whipped cream and chocolate sprinkles, lies evidence of San Marino's history.

Many of the city's original stone walls are still standing. Used for hundreds of years to keep invaders out, now millions each year pass through Porta San Francesco, the St. Francis Gate, to enter the city.

From there, it's all uphill – and on foot. Despite the unforgiving incline, however, San Marino is not limited to those of top physical prowess.

In fact, Marie Wyatt and fellow mom Adriane Zambrana conquered it with strollers.

"At this point, they just like being in the stroller and running around," Zambrana

said of her 2-year-old daughter, Kiara Lynn, and Wyatt's 15-month-old son, Tristen.

For those up to some stair climbing, San Marino's three castles are open to exploration for a small fee, and house many artifacts such as those found in the Museum of Ancient Arms.

The view from the top of each castle is the real treasure, however, and makes every visitor feel like royalty.

Caserna Ederle's Information, Tours and Registration office regularly schedules bus trips to this beautiful, mountain-top territory. The next one is scheduled for Sept. 25. For more information, call 634-7094.

"I'd recommend this to everybody at least once," said Caserna Ederle community member Kathleen Jones, "and then go again!"



Throughout San Marino you will find many stone carvings of San Marino's founder, Marinus, a Christian stonemason. San Marino was founded in 301 A.D.

Right: Cars are prohibited in the walled area of the city. There are a number of car parks in the nearby town of Borgo Maggiore, at the foot of the mountain. You can then take a cable car ride up to San Marino. It is about a one mile ride.